



**The Birth of Our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos
and Ever-Virgin Mary
Which the Holy Church Celebrates on September 8**

According to the ancient tradition of the Church, the Theotokos was born of barren and aged parents, Joachim and Anna, about the year 16 or 17 before the birth of Christ. Joachim was descended from the royal line of David, of the tribe of Judah. Anna was of the priestly tribe of Levi, a daughter of the priest Matthan and Mary, his wife.

Rest from labour. Fish allowed.

Dismissal Hymn. Fourth Tone

THY Nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole world: for from thee hath dawned the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

Kontakion. Fourth Tone

JOACHIM and Anna were freed from the reproach of childlessness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death, O immaculate one, by thy holy Nativity, which thy people, redeemed from the guilt of offenses, celebrate by crying to thee: the barren woman giveth birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.



Saints Joachim and Anna

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